

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed January 3, 2006 and the prior Office Action mailed October 20, 2005 (hereinafter "Office Actions"), Applicant hereby elects Invention II, corresponding to Claims 22-43 drawn to methods of building a disk stack for inclusion in a magnetic disk drive. Applicant has canceled Invention I, corresponding to Claims 1-21 drawn to an apparatus for building a disk stack. This cancellation is being done without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application for these and/or other claims.

The Office Actions further state that the application contains claims directed to the following species, one of which must be elected:

Species A drawn to Fig. 2;

Species B drawn to Fig. 3; and

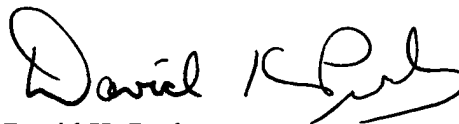
Species C drawn to Fig. 4.

The Office Actions indicate that Claim 23 is a generic claim.

For purposes of providing a complete reply to the Office Actions, Applicant elects Species A for prosecution on the merits. Claims 22-30 and 39-43 are readable on elected Species A. Claims 44-47 have been added and are also readable on elected Species A. Claims 31-38 have been withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests favorable examination and allowance of Claims 22-30 and 39-47.

Respectfully submitted,



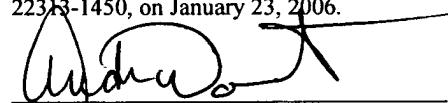
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In re: Michael Mallary
Application No.: 10/630,265
Filed: July 30, 2003
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 23, 2006.



Audra Wooten